

# **ACCELERATOR**

## **Part 2: Identity Change**

### **MAKING CHANGES IS NOT THE IMPOSSIBLE DREAM**

#### **A. The layers of change**

1. Outcome - changing results. Losing weight, reading NT, becoming grateful
2. Process - changing habits, systems, behaviors. Dieting, devotional time, journaling
3. Identity - changing beliefs, perspectives. Who are you, what do you believe about yourself

#### **B. Changing the order**

1. Starting with the outcome - I want these results...
2. Starting with identity - This is who I am. So this is what I will do, act like

#### **C. The believer's advantage - our connection with God**

1. John's answer (*John 1:22-23 NIV*)
2. John found what God had said about him and identified with that
3. God reveals who we really are

### **CONTRASTING IDENTITIES (*Judges 6:11-16 NKJV*)**

#### **A. Hiding in the winepress**

1. A sure sign Gideon did not believe he had an answer for the Midianite problem

#### **B. Gideon's Identification**

1. Skeptic - Unwilling to believe good news
2. Victim - God had abandoned Israel and caused these problems
3. Incapable and Unappealing - weak family, weak link in the family

#### **C. God's contrasting identification of Gideon**

1. Empowered - God's declaration of His presence and power
2. Strong warrior leader - valor meant strength for battle and influence
3. Victorious deliverer - twice he is told he will defeat the Midianites and deliver Israel

#### **D. Gideon begins to change his process / actions**

1. Takes a series of small steps that validate his being the strong empowered warrior and leader

### **ADOPTING A DIFFERENT IDENTITY**

#### **A. What do you say about yourself?**

1. All of us have beliefs about who we are
2. We have the freedom to chose a different identity (who we want to become)

#### **B. Take small steps that validate who you are becoming**

1. Every small step validates your positive ID - a vote for your new identity

#### **C. Discover and agree with God's identification of you**

1. We are too often much like Gideon - our beliefs based on fears, failures, weakness and error
2. We can base our identity on what is eternal and powerful (*Ephesians 2:10 NIV*)